Benefits of camels' milk

†3403. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether N.R.I.C. has conducted any research on camels' milk and their milk products;

(b) the name of camels' milk food products available in the market;

(c) the names of diseases in which camels' milk has been helpful in curing them;

(d) whether number of camels is decreasing; and

(e) if so, the measures being taken to check their decreasing numbers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Raw and flavoured camel milk and its products like camel milk tea, coffee and ice-cream are presently available at the institute milk parlour. Efforts are underway to sell them through Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation (RCDF).

(c) The research conducted in collaboration with S.P. Medical College, Bikaner has found that the camel milk is useful in Diabetes type I and II and as adjuvant therapy in Tuberculosis.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Following measures are being taken:—

* Four breeds of camel are being conserved and propagated in the Institute.
* Diversification of camel into milk production has been taken up to enhance economic contribution.
* Positive aspect of using camel for power (electricity) generation is also being demonstrated.
* Package of practices for economic camel rearing is being developed and also value addition of camel milk is being popularized to increase the utility of camel so that more number of farmers can go for camel rearing.

Subsidy for indigenous farming

3404. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that new farm policy emphasise on reducing people's dependence on agriculture and encouraging corporate farming;

(b) if so, what alternative plans Government has got in mind for the farmers;

(c) whether Government will give farmers direct income support apart from loan relief and revive indigenous and sustainable farming practices by giving subsidy support;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi